

This species is more constant in cranial characters and in coloration than its two nearest allies. In general appearance it strongly resembles the likewise Ceylonese *R. eques*.

A slender bony parieto-squamosal arch. Skin adherent to the rugose nasals and fronto-parietals; latter bones broadest in front, without or with a mere indication of postorbital processes. Inter-orbital space once to once and a half the width of the upper eyelid.

Digital expansions larger than those in *R. maculatus*, that of the third finger measuring one half to two thirds the diameter of the eye. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the end of the snout or a little beyond.

No large dorsal spots, but usually a large dark or black-edged hourglass-shaped marking extending from between the eyes to in front of the sacrum; hinder side of thighs brownish, uniform or with small whitish spots.

Hab. Ceylon. Nevill states that he has examined some hundred or more, of both sexes, of this frog and of *R. maculatus*, as found in Ceylon, without coming across any intermediate forms. *R. cruciger* is found in the wet valleys of the hill district around Kandy, but he has not seen it from any other locality. *R. maculatus* has a peculiar fondness for houses; but *R. cruciger*, though found amongst plantain-groves, &c., seems never to enter houses.

2. On some new Species and Genera of Birds of the Family *Dendrocolaptidæ*. By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society.

[Received December 19, 1888.]

The following species of the family Dendrocolaptidæ, so far as I can make out, appear to be undescribed. They are based on specimens in the British Museum, and in my own collection and that of Messrs. Salvin and Godman.

1. *UPUCERTHIA BRIDGESI*, sp. nov.

Above brown, rump more rufous, head more cinereous; long, narrow superciliaries white; wings blackish, inner primaries and secondaries rufous at the base and edged externally with rufous; tail uniform rufous: beneath dirty white, flanks flammulated with brown; under wing-coverts whitish; inner margins of wing-feathers pale rufous: bill black; lower mandible at the base yellowish; feet blackish. Whole length 7·0 inches, wing 3·1, tail 2·8.

Hab. Bolivia (*Bridges*).

Mus. Brit.

This species comes nearest to *U. montana*, having the whole tail rufous, but the wings and tail are shorter, and the body is much whiter beneath.

2. *PHACELLODOMUS RUFIPENNIS*, sp. nov.

Above reddish earthy brown ; head, rump, wings, and tail brighter, clear rufous ; lores whitish ; wing-end pale blackish : beneath creamy white ; breast slightly washed with rufous, and with bright shaft-stripes ; flanks and crissum pale rufous ; under wing-coverts dark rufous ; bill pale brown, under mandible whiter ; feet pale brown. Whole length 8·0 inches, wing 2·7, tail 3·7.

Hab. Bolivia.

Mus. Brit. et P. L. S.

This species has a general resemblance to *P. ruber*, but is distinguished by its earthy-brown back and by the breast being suffused with rufous and marked by very narrow bright shaft-stripes. In *P. ruber* the breast is of a pure white.

It should be remarked that, as I have lately ascertained by examination of the specimens at Paris, the ordinary *Phacellodomus* of the Argentine Republic, which I have hitherto followed Burmeister and others in referring to *P. ruber*, is not *P. ruber*, but *P. striatcollis* (d'Orb. et Lafr.).

3. *THRIPOPHAGA FUSCICEPS*, sp. nov.

Above earthy brown ; head paler, somewhat cinereous ; interscapulum washed with rufous ; edgings of wings and whole tail chestnut-red : beneath yellowish earthy brown, with very narrow brighter shaft-stripes on the breast ; under wing-coverts bright rufous ; bill yellowish brown ; feet pale brown. Whole length 6·7 inches, wing ·9, tail 3·3.

Hab. Bolivia (*Bridges*).

Mus. Brit.

The earthy-brown cap at once distinguishes this well-marked species from its congeners.

4. *PHILYDOR CERVICALIS*, sp. nov.

Philydor erythrocerus, Salv. Ibis, 1885, p. 420 (?).

Above uniform dark olive ; rump and tail chestnut-red : beneath pale greyish olive ; throat white ; breast slightly mottled with greyish olive ; under wing-coverts and inner edges of remiges bright cinnamonaceous ; bill greenish grey, with a white blotch on the lower mandible ; feet plumbeous. Whole length 6·3 inches, wing 3·1, tail 2·8.

Hab. British Guiana.

Mus. P. L. S.

This species seems to me to be decidedly different from *P. erythrocerus*, although closely allied. It is distinguished by the want of any signs of the superciliary stripe and by the slightly mottled breast. My specimens were obtained at Bartica Grove and at Camacusa in British Guiana by Mr. Whitely.

5. *PICOLAPTES PARVIROSTRIS*, sp. nov.

Above earthy brown ; rump, margins of wing-feathers and tail bright ferruginous ; head and neck behind, down to middle of the

back, spotted with well-marked yellowish shaft-spots, which are short and triangular on the head, and long and thin on the neck; the shaft-spots on the head are slightly margined with blackish: beneath earthly brown, densely spotted with elongated ochraceous shaft-spots, which are distinctly edged with blackish; flanks and crissum less marked; chin and middle of throat pale ochraceous, unspotted; bill very short, slightly incurved, pale brown; feet dark. Whole length 8·0, wing 4·0, tail 3·8, bill from gape 0·9.

Hab. S.E. Brazil.

Mus. S.-G.

The single specimen of this species, which was purchased of a dealer, but is of apparently "Brazilian" make, is not unlike some examples of *P. affinis*, but is at once distinguishable by its shortened and straightened bill.

In revising the Dendrocolaptidæ for the 15th volume of the British Museum Catalogue I have found it necessary to use two new generic forms. These are:—

(1) LIMNOPHYES (λίμνη *palus* et φύω *gigno*), for *Limnornis curvirostris*, Gould (Zool. Voy. Beagle, iii. p. 81), a form allied to *Limnornis*, but differing in its curved bill; and

(2) HYLEXETASTES (ύλη *silva* et εξεταστής *investigator*), for *Dendrocolaptes perroti*, Lafr., which is allied to *Dendrexetastes*, but differs in its much stronger and stouter bill.

3. On some new Species and a new Genus of Araneidea.

By the Rev. O. P. CAMBRIDGE, M.A., F.R.S., &c.

[Received November 30, 1888.]

(Plate II.)

The Spiders described in the present paper are from the widely separated localities of Burmah, South Africa, and Australia. The principal interest attaching to two of them (from South Africa) arises from their being represented, at this moment, by examples living in this Society's Insect-house. One of these two spiders, *Pachylomerus natalensis*, has been there for the last twelve months along with its fine trapdoor nest. The other, *Stegodyphus gregarius*, has only lately been received there, and is also interesting as being the first, I believe, of this group (*Eresidæ*) whose habits are known to be gregarious: the nest is of large size, and contains from 100 to 150 inhabitants of both sexes and various ages. Some few of these had died on the passage from Durban, and from these the subjoined description has been prepared. Another of the spiders described is interesting as being the second known species of Tree Trapdoor Spiders. The first species was described and figured by myself several years ago (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. xvi. (4) p. 319, pl. x.) from Uitenhage, South Africa, under the name of *Moggridgea dyeri*. Subsequently in 1887 a note was communicated to